

# TURNING POINT

A PUBLICATION OF WORLDWIDEWOODTURNERS

May 8, 2020



Photographs obtained through WorldWideWoodturners.com

Life is just wonderful:

As I sit here, on my front porch, listening to a multitude of birds in our tree, I'm just now realizing how blessed we are to have this. Against orders, I have ventured out into the shop this week for the first time in over 5 months. I have two more months of restrictions until they see if the drugs work their magic.

I went out to collect a few projects to be used in upcoming newsletters. I was looking for gizmos, gadgets, and even tools for this project.

It was then that I had a major brain cramp and realized that I had a team of woodturners who can supply some of these ideas. I'm calling on all my friends to support their club with tips, hints and solutions for problems and opportunities from their shop.

Recently a turning buddy got tired of creating more funnels than he could use. He created a simple to construct and easy to use bowl depth bottom gauge. Come on, you have like this, or even better. We are all waiting to see your idea or creations. You will receive due credit and maybe even get paid.

*Until next time, this is Cap'n Eddie Castelin, Makin' Shavin's  
(the getting paid part is really just a joke)*

## General Virtual Meeting

*Please get involved with this program. Afterall, it is your club. At this time, we are scheduling ZOOM broadcasts every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM CDT. We invite your input and participation in this General Meeting format.*

*Tips, tricks, problems, solutions, and more are welcome. If you'd like to receive an invitation, with all the details for you to sign in, simply send an e-mail to [worldwidewoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:worldwidewoodturners@gmail.com)*

*Hope to see you there.*



## The Project...

Advisory Team member, **Ronnie Bonnette**, created this vase in about 40 hours of work.

Exist of over 488 pieces of material, glued with TiteBond and finished with 3 coats of Finish CA.

Wood used includes: Poplar, Cherry and Kamaru.

A recent conversation...

**Wife:** What are you going to do to pass the time during this quarantine?

**Husband:** Mostly going to the shop to work on projects.

**Wife:** What will you do when you run out of projects?

**Husband:** (laughing uncontrollably) It's apparent that you aren't a Woodturner.

### *Suit up and go to work...*

Having a bad day? My niece is a doctor, working in the Physical Therapy Center at Ochsner Hospital.

This is how she has to dress for a day's work because of this virus. Some people do what they have to do in order to save our lives.

Boy are we proud of her.



Want to build your own Longworth Chuck? Check out this website for directions and helpful tips.

[https://www.woodcraft.com/blog\\_entries/how-to-make-a-longworth-chuck-with-ron-thompson](https://www.woodcraft.com/blog_entries/how-to-make-a-longworth-chuck-with-ron-thompson)

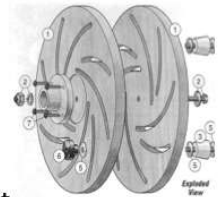
## Longworth Chuck...

### The right holding power

If you are into chucking like I'm into chucking, then you already know about the Longworth Chuck. I have heard that the developer of the chuck, Leslie Douglas Longworth, of the Hunter Valley Woodturners, introduced the project in the late 1980's. Being a woodturner, and a very creative person, Leslie crated a fine tool for multiple applications.

I built my first Longworth chuck after seeing one in operation at a club demonstration. There are a number of diagrams available on the internet.

Along with multiple sources for parts, pieces and kits for your creation. But, what is often not mentioned, the use of a finished surface where the disc make contact is a nice addition.



A turning buddy of mine recently purchased one made of an acrylic based product. This reduces the twisting or warping of wooden models. Also, the plastic offers less resistance when adjusting.

Most turner see this as a tool to turn bowls and vessels around to finish the bottom. My buddy uses his to help align the rings of segmented pieces when gluing them up.

We are talking about perfect alignment without the hassle of clamps.

Several are made today with spacers to assist in holding.



## *Steel Wool, Is it really wool?*

If you have ever been in furniture or surface remediation, then you know of Steel Wool. Created more than 125 years ago, it is a ball, or pad, of finely sliced wires with very sharp edges. These sharp edges are what do the cutting and removal. Available in different grades, in at least 8 steps, this material may appear to be a life saver when finishing a woodturning piece.

For instance, the 0000#, which measures out at .001 inches, is excellent for removing bumps and trash on sealed pieces. Deigned to lightly remove materials and even clean metals. This is the finest and you may want. To step up in grades to get a more aggressive cut. I've used 0000# to remove trash, paints and glue from glass surfaces. The steel wool is softer than the glass and leaves no marks or scuffs.

Now that I've mentioned the good properties of Steel Wool, let's us talk a little about the negatives. Considering that the "Wool" aspect is in relation to the material being balled up for use. This means that it is interwoven to provide a mass, a mass which sometimes can be unforgiving. This is very important to note if you use it on a piece moving on your lathe. All the positives are dismissed when a shard of wood, or just the friction, grabs the ball of sharp twisted steel fibers. Now you are holding a ball of steel capable of grabbing your fingers, or toss pieces into your eyes, nose and mouth. Let's add on that small shards of metal can remain in your piece, which will rust or otherwise stain the material. And there's always the belief that you can't use Steel Wool on oak. That's not a wife's tale, I've lost more than one piece to my ignorance, or reluctance, to heed the warnings.

Steel Wool can be a life saver in some situations, but there are limits. If you feel the need to buff a piece with Steel Wood, do so, with some precautions. I tell students in my shop to grab a piece, **Stop the lathe**, and go to buffing. You did note the phrase, **Stop the lathe**, it is a crucial step in this process. Remember, you are improving a surface, not creating a surface to some degree.

I have turned large pieces on the lathe, sanded to a finish, and then applied sealer. I may have some trash trapped in the sealer, or applying it under power, generated some rings or bands in the finish. A light buffing with steel wool, on a standing or stopped piece, will remove those rings and get you to a smoother finish.

Please use with care, you can get a great finish if you follow the rules.

*This is what I got to see on May 1, 2020. The USAF, out of Barksdale AFB, sent two B-52 bombers to New Orleans. They, with the assistance of a pair of F-15s, performed fly-overs in the area of several local hospitals.*

*This was to recognize and thank the first-responders for their work.*

A pair of BUFFS  
and a pair of F-15s.

Amazingly, these  
BUFFS are more  
than 68 years old.



## *Tenon Wrench..*

*When it's got to fit*



Some time ago, I produced a video about turning tenons to a specific diameter every time, without the need of a caliper.

You will have to create your own tool, which takes about a minute. I chose to go to Harbor Freight and buy a set of combo wrenches of fair quality. Then you can use them to match your tenon needs.

As pictured on the right, the wrench is modified to a slicing or scraping tool of that size. Now you have to consider that a 7/16" cuts a 7/16" tenon.



The real beauty is the fact that most of them will match your Forstner bits to make assembly a lot easier. The short end goes to the top, you use the long end as a guide. Don't go the other way or you'll be surprised, and maybe get hurt by the outcome.